

Proponent for HB 605

For the record, my name is Arlene H. Parisot, Director of Workforce Development and Two-Year Education for the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

I stand as a proponent for HB 605 and the professional education they receive through our two-year system. I would like to provide the following profile of Medical Assistant programs currently available within the Montana University System and Community Colleges.

Medical Assistant Programs Offered in Montana University System and Community College

- Flathead Valley Community College
 - Montana State University Billings College of Technology
 - University of Montana Missoula College of Technology
 - Montana Tech Butte College of Technology
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- FVCC program is accredited through the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon recommendation of the curriculum board review of the American Association of Medical Assistants Endowment. Graduates of the program qualify to take the Registered Medical Assistant National Certification Exam (RMA).
 - MSU Billings College of Technology is also accredited by the CAAHEP. Students are prepared to take the Registered Medical Assistant National Certification Exam (RMA).
 - Missoula College of Technology has developed their program to the accreditation standard of the American Association of Medical Assistants. It is not accredited by the Commission, but students are prepared to take the Registered Medical Assistant National Certification Exam (RMA).
 - Montana Tech College of Technology program was developed under the standards of the American Association of Medical Assistants and the American Medical Technologists. Approved through the Dept. of Health and Human Services. It is not accredited by the Commission.
 - Great Falls COT medical assistant program has been developed but is in moratorium. The college has had numerous requests from doctors for new graduates, so may reconsider the moratorium. This program was accredited through CAAHEP.

Duration of Program

The Associate of Applied Science degree is a two-year program ranging from 65 to 72 credits.

Availability of online instruction:

Varies from program to program, courses primarily include medical terminology and general education requirements. Institutions are considering addition technical courses for online delivery.

Cost

Cost for the full program ranges from \$6,500 to \$9,070 including books and fees.

I support a do pass of HB 605.